



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

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Contact:

Phil Pitchford

Communications Officer

951-826-5975

ppitchford@riversideca.gov

Riverside Encourages Residents to “Adopt a Drain,” Volunteer to Remove Debris

Web-based program allows residents and business owners to help prevent clogged storm drains

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – After working overtime and on weekends to clear storm drains, the City of Riverside is partnering with residents and businesses to keep the drains clear during El Niño-related storms.

The Adopt-a-Drain Program provides a Web-based program where volunteers can sign up to remove debris and report problems at drains in residential and commercial areas. Users can log on at www.adoptadrainriverside.com to see which drains are available, and then choose a drain to adopt.

“City crews clear storm drains all year long, but we have really stepped up our efforts to get ready for the heavy rainfall we are seeing from the El Niño weather system,” Public Works Director Kris Martinez said. “The Adopt-a-Drain program is a way that people who live or work near one of more than 4,800 storm drains in Riverside can help us keep that drain clear.”

By adopting a drain, volunteers agree to remove trash, tree limbs, palm fronds and other debris that can block water from entering the storm drain, or to call the City’s 311 system to request assistance. Volunteers are not asked or permitted to enter the storm drain at any time.

Keeping storm drains clear lessens the potential for flooding and assists with preventing the pollution of local waterways. To sign up, just go to the map-based website at www.adoptadrainriverside.com, and then contact the City’s 311 system to get a free tool kit.

“With heavy rainfall from the El Niño weather system, it is more important than ever to keep debris out of storm drains,” Mayor Rusty Bailey said. “The Adopt-a-Drain program empowers residents and business owners and creates an opportunity for us to work together to reduce the potential for storm-related damage.”